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Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 07076 290741Z

15
ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-06 SS-15 RSC-01 SY-04 USSS-00

NSC-05 PRS-01 /043 W
---------- 021585
R 290650Z OCT 74
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4389
INFO AMCONSUL BRISBANE
AMCONSUL PERTH
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMCONSUL SYDNEY

UNCLAS CANBERRA 7076

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP, AS (DENT, FREDERICK B)
SUBJ: SECRETARY OF COMMERCE VISIT TO AUSTRALIA - WORKING SESSIONS WITH AMCHAM DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE

REF: (A) STATE 236368 (B) STATE 231387 (C) CANBERRA 6908

1. APPRECIATE REFTEL RECEIVED TODAY.

2. THIS MESSAGE DEALS SOLELY WITH QUESTION OF WHAT KIND OF MEETINGS SECRETARY WISHES WITH AMCHAM, ASIDE FROM PUBLIC LUNCHES NOW SCHEDULED IN SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

3. OUR ORIGINAL SUGGESTION WAS FOR MEETING IN MELBOURNE WITH FULL EMBASSY-AMCHAM LIAISON COMMITTEE. THIS REFLECTED IN YOUR TEL, REF (B). OUR TEL, REF (C), AMENDED OUR EARLIER SUGGESTION TO PROVIDE FOR WORKING SESSION DEC. 5 IN MELBOURNE WITH RESIDENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS PLUS AMCHAM DIRECTORS RESIDENT IN MELBOURNE, AND WORKING SESSION DEC. 6 IN SYDNEY WITH RESIDENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS PLUS AMCHAM DIRECTORS RESIDENT IN SYDNEY.

4. REF (A) DOES NOT PROVIDE AMCHAM WORKING SESSION IN SYDNEY PROGRAM. MOREOVER, PENDING BOB BRAND'S COMMENTS, FOR WHICH REF (A) DEFERS MELBOURNE PROGRAM, WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER COMMERCE
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 CANBER 07076 290741Z

CONTEMPLATES ANY WORKING SESSION WITH AMCHAM, ADDITIONAL TO PUBLIC

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

AMCHAM LUNCHEON, IN MELBOURNE.

5. IT WOULD GREATLY ASSIST US IN DEALING WITH AMCHAM IF COMMERCE COULD ADVISE BY NOV. 1 RESPECTING SECRETARY'S DESIRES ON THIS POINT. THERE ARE THREE POSSIBILITIES:

OPTION (1) - A WORKING SESSION IN MELBOURNE, INDEPENDENT OF DEC. 5 AMCHAM PUBLIC LUNCH, WITH RESIDENT LIAISON COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND RESIDENT AMCHAM DIRECTOS, DURING LATTER HALF OF DECEMBER 5 A.M., PLUS A SIMILAR WORKING SESSION IN SYDNEY DEC. 6 WITH RESIDENT LIAISON COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND RESIDENT AMCHAM DIRECTORS, INDEPENDENT OF AMCHAM DEC. 6 SYDNEY PUBLIC LUNCH (WE COULD POSSIBLY USE TRADE CENTER LOUNGE, DURING ONE HOUR OF THE TIME ACCORDED FOR TRADE CENTER VISIT, FOR THIS PURPOSE IN SYDNEY);

OPTION (2) - A SINGLE MEETING WITH FULL MEMBERSHIP OF THE EMBASSY-AMCHAM LIAISON COMMITTEE TO BE HELD IN MELBOURNE ON THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 5 PER THE EARLIER SUGGESTIONS CONVEYED TO SECRETARY DENT BY AMBASSADOR GREEN;

OPTION (3) - NO WORKING MEETINGS WITH AMCHAM IN EITHER CITY, AND WITH AMCHAM ROLE THEREFORE LIMITED TO THE DECEMBER 5 AND 6 PUBLIC LUNCHES IN MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY RESPECTIVELY.

6. OPTION (1) WOULD PROVIDE WORKING CONTACT WITH A SOMEWHAT LARGER AND MORE VARIED GROUP OF INDIVIDUAL BUSINESSMEN, BUT WOULD ALSO ENTAIL RESERVING TIME FOR SEPARATE WORKING SESSIONS IN MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY, AS PROPOSED IN REF (C). OPTION (2) WOULD REQUIRE ONLY ONE WORKING SESSION, IN MELBOURNE, AND WOULD PROVIDE A SMALLER BUT MORE COMPACT GROUP OF BUSINESS CONTACTS, ALL THE MEMBERS OF WHICH WOULD HAVE CONTINUITY FROM REGULARLY-SCHEDULED MEETINGS WITH EMBASSY. WE BELIEVE EITHER (1) OR (2) WOULD BE VALUABLE AND CHOICE IS MATTER OF SECRETARY'S CONVENIENCE AND PREFERENCE. WE DO RECOMMEND THAT EITHER OPTION (1) OR OPTION (2) BE ADOPTED IN PREFERENCE TO OPTION (3), BECAUSE SUCH WORKING MEETINGS PROVIDE A VALUABLE EXCHANGE NOT POSSIBLE IN BROAD-BASE PUBLIC AMCHAM LUNCHES.

7. THE RESOLUTION OF THIS QUESTION OBVIOUSLY AFFECTS BOTH THE MELBOURNE AND THE SYDNEY SCHEDULES AS WELL AS OUR ARRANGEMENTS
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 CANBER 07076 290741Z

WITH AMCHAM. FOR THIS REASON, IT WOULD HELP US A GREAT DEAL IF THIS MATTER COULD BE DECIDED WITHOUT AWAITING FOR AND WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO, THE RESOLUTION OF THE BALANCE OF THE MELBOURNE PROGRAM PER THE UNNUMBERED ANTEPENULTIMATE PARAGRAPH OF REF (A).

8. ACTION RQEQUESTED: REQUEST COMMERCE ADVISE US THIS WEEK, IF POSSIBLE, OF SECRETARY'S PREFERENCES AMONG (1), (2), AND (3).

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

9. SEPTELS FOLLOW FROM CANBERRA, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE ON POINTS
RAISED IN REF (A).
GREEN

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30 JUN 2005

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